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PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Docket No: Q62125

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Naoki KUWATA, et al.

SEP 17 2004

Appln. No.: 09/744,768

Group Art Unit: 2615 Technology Center 2600

Confirmation No.: 4964

Examiner: Gevell V. Selby

Filed: January 30, 2001

For: MONOTONE CONVERSION APPARATUS, MONOTONE CONVERSION METHOD
AND MEDIUM RECORDING THEREON MONOTONE CONVERSION PROGRAM

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 A & B (modified) form and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

One copy of each of the listed documents is submitted herewith, along with a copy of the corresponding Communication from a Foreign Patent Office.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after either a Final Office Action, Notice of Allowance, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application (whichever is earlier), but before payment of the Issue Fee, and therefore Applicant is submitting

09/16/2004 WRBDEL1 00000061 09744768 180.00 OP
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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
U.S. Appln. No.: 09/744,768

Our Ref: Q62125
Art Unit: 2615

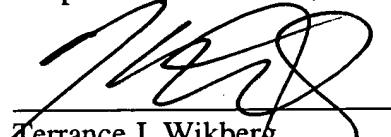
herewith a check for the fee of \$180.00 under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p), and a Statement Under
37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e).

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) for
foreign language documents, Applicant encloses herewith a copy of a Communication from a
foreign patent office in a counterpart application citing such documents, together with an
English-language version (if not already included) of at least that portion of the Communication
indicating the degree of relevance found by the foreign patent office.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such
document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not
waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any
listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue
Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any
overpayments to said Deposit Account. A duplicate copy of this paper is attached.

Respectfully submitted,


Terrance J. Wikberg
Registration No. 47,177

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WASHINGTON OFFICE

23373

CUSTOMER NUMBER

Date: September 15, 2004



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STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)

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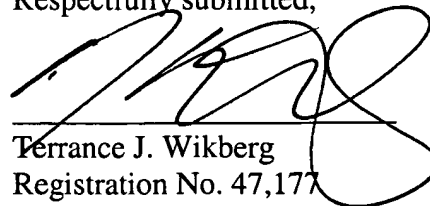
Sir:

The undersigned hereby states, upon information and belief:

Technology Center 2600

That each item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement filed concurrently herewith was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of said Information Disclosure Statement.

Respectfully submitted,


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Substitute for Form 1449 A & B/PTO

Complete if Known

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Application Number 09/744,768
 Confirmation Number 4964
 Filing Date January 30, 2001
 First Named Inventor Naoki KUWATA
 Art Unit 2615
 Examiner Name Gevell V. Selby
 Attorney Docket Number Q62125

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)		
		US			
		US			
		US			
		US			
		US			
		US			
		US			
		US			
		US			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Translation ⁶
		Country Code ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵ (if known)			

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city, and/or country where published.	Translation ⁶
	✓	DICK MARCHESSAULT: "Guidelines for using the Sony Mavica MVC-FD7 Digital Camera, April 1998, XP002280999, page 1 pp 3 "Special Effects" and page 3 pp 3 "Photo Studio"	Yes
	✓	MEDIANORD: "Sony MVC-FD7" XP002281000, retrieved from internet May 19, 2004, page 1- page 2	No
	✓	PETER HABERACKER: "Digitale Bildverarbeitung - Grundlagen und Anwendungen" 1985, XP002281001, pages 104 - 105; 107 pp 2-3; 108 pp 2; 109 pp 2 - 110 pp 1; 117, equation 7.21	No
	✓	WILLIAM K. PRATT: "Digital Image Processing" 1991, JOHN WILEY & SONS, INC. NEW YORK, XP002281002; figures 10.1-1, to 10.1-9, pages 264 - page 270, page 269, equation 10.1-1	Yes
	✓	RAFAEL C. GONZALES, RICHARD E. WOODS: "Digital Image Processing" 1992, ADDISON-WESLEY PUBLISHING COMPANY, NEW YORK XP002281003, page 226 - page 231; figure 4.44	Yes
	✓	JIM RICH AND SANDY BOZEH: "PHOTOSHOP in Black and White, 2 nd Edition", 1995, PEACHPIT PRESS, BERKELEY, CA, USA XP002282463, page 6 - page 26	Yes

Examiner Signature

Date Considered

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov, MPEP 901.04 or in the comment box of this document. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST. 3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to indicate here if English language Translation is attached.